

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hideyuki Seto, et al.

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Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application Laid Open No. 2003-190080, published July 8, 2003 together with an English language abstract;
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-23983, published January 29, 1999 together with an English language abstract; and
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 11-151200, published June 8, 1999 together with an English language abstract.

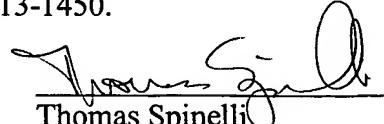
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Dated: January 26, 2004



Thomas Spinelli

Applicants are submitting copies of the above-cited references. The relevance of references 2 and 3 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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